Loan to U.P. Minorities Financial and Development Corporation Ltd.

722. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank has refused to give money to the U.P. Minorities Financial and Development Corporation Ltd. to enable it to advance loans to the members of minority community to run small scale and cottage industries or start some business as other banks are not giving loans to persons whose cases have been recommended by the U.P. Minorities Financial Corporation; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government of India propose to undertake to help the U.P. Minorities Financial Corporation to carry out its programme or helping the members of minority communities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) A request had been received from the U.P. Minorities Financial & Development Corporation Limited to recognise the Corporation as a financial institution eligible for obtaining refinance directly from NABARD and IDBI. The Corporation is not covered under the category of institutions eligible for refinance f om the IDBI. Also, refinance facilities under NABARD are at present available only to the Scheduled Commercial Banks, Co-operative Banks. Regional Rural Banks and State Land Development Banks. It was suggested to the Corporation that it might take advantage of the existing refinance facilities of NABARD and IDBI through the commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks etc., to implement various programmes for its identified beneficiaries.

Export of Tobacco

723. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of tobacco in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been any glut in tobacco industry;

(c) the total quantum of tobacco exported to foreign countries along with their names during these years; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange earned thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) The total production of tobacco in the country during the last few years is:—

Year	Production(E.Kg.
1984-85	485.9
1985-86	441.2
1986-87 (P)	460.2
1987-88 (P)	408.0

P.=Provisional

A statement giving state-wise production of tobacco in India during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 is enclosed. (*See* below).

(b) Some glut was experienced in case of 1987 Andhra Pradesh crop due to quality and reduction in export demand.

(c) The total quantum of unmanufactured tobacco exported during the last three years is:—

Year	Qtv. exported in tonnes
1985-86	64,433
1986-87	66,824
1987-88	48,111